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INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Alpine Maneuvers Near Lake Sevan

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. Early in Nov 1953, Alpine troops of the Soviet Army began maneuvers south of Lake Sevan, near Mount Gazeldarisbasi [Sic]. They operated at a height of 3,000 meters. The troops were assembled at Karanluk, on Lake Sevan, and departed thence for the maneuvers.

2. These troops belonged to the 8th Infantry Division, supported by artillery and air. They were wearing uniforms of a new type, which give better protection against the cold than those previously used. After they have completed their own maneuvers, these troops will be used as models for other winter maneuvers. Part of the training consisted of rocket launching.

3. Rations and the service of supply in general, for these troops, are first class--even exceptional.

4. An 8th Division, not otherwise identified, has been in the Caucasus for at least a year.

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